

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

GOVERNING

PRESTOCKAGE AND REINFORCEMENT OF NORWAY

The Government of the United States and the Government of Norway, intending to strengthen the security of the NATO area through enhanced Alliance capability for reinforcing Norway, have agreed:

1.

That the United States may provide, consistent with SACEUR requirements and implementing arrangements, a U.S. Marine Amphibious Brigade (MAB) for Alliance reinforcement of Norway within the NATO chain of command.

2.

The composition of the Marine Amphibious Brigade shall include infantry and combat service support as well as aviation, artillery, infantry, and anti-tank weapons. The Marine aviation combat element shall perform air defense and close air support missions. It shall consist of two air defense squadrons, two close support squadrons, and appropriate support aircraft, as mutually agreed. It shall consist, furthermore, of approximately 75 heavy transport and light support helicopters.

3.

In order to facilitate the rapid transfer of the MAB in a conventional Alliance reinforcement of Norway, the following heavy equipment and supplies for the use of that MAB will be prepositioned in Central Norway: 24 155 mm howitzers and their prime movers, bridging equipment, motor transport (approximately 250 trucks with about 100 trailers), ammunition, fuel, and food.

4.

With respect to air defense of air bases, in addition to currently planned Norwegian defenses for airfields, the United States shall seek to make available upon favorable terms to the Government of Norway two batteries of I-Hawk subject to the requirements of U.S. laws and regulations. It is understood that Norway will be responsible for operations and maintenance costs, to include the cost of missiles, as well as any costs of refurbishing.

5.

The Government of Norway shall make available adequate means to tactically load and transport personnel and equipment of the Marine Amphibious Brigade from Central Norway to other threatened areas in Norway.

6.

The Government of Norway shall, through NATO infrastructure procedures, provide adequate prepositioning facilities and airbase reception facilities and operating airbases, and

shall assume responsibilities for security and general maintenance of prepositioned equipment and supplies in consonance with the provisions as outlined in Article 10 of the memorandum from the Norwegian Ministry of Defense to major NATO commanders (MNC) of 11 December 1959.

Financial arrangements for the cost of operations and maintenance will be mutually agreed.

7.

In the event that the Marine Amphibious Brigade should be transferred to other threatened areas in Norway, it will draw on Norwegian stocks of available "common user" items such as munitions, food, and fuel, to allow time for the establishment of U.S. logistical support.

8.

The Government of Norway shall make available host nation support for the MAB including some 150 over-snow vehicles, two motor transport companies (90 trucks each), one ambulance company (35 ambulances), one refueler section (six trucks), and necessary engineering and airbase support equipment as mutually agreed.

9.

The Government of the United States agrees to accept Norwegian rules with respect to ownership, control, and access to infrastructure installations as outlined in Article 10 of the memorandum from the Norwegian Ministry of Defense to MNCs of 11 December 1959.

10.

Norwegian policies with respect to the stationing of

foreign troops on Norwegian territory and the stockpiling or deployment of nuclear weapons on Norwegian territory will not be altered by this agreement.

11.

This arrangement is subject to amendment by agreement of the parties.

12.

This Memorandum shall enter into force upon signature. It shall continue in force until terminated by one year's notice by either party.

Washington, D.C., January 16, 1981

For the Government
of the United States
of America

RW Komer

For the Government
of the Kingdom
of Norway

Arnt Hedemann